

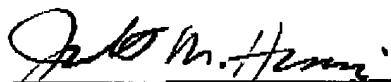
Appl. No. 09/981,202
Amdt. dated September 21, 2004
Reply to Office action of August 13, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant received the final Office Action in which the Examiner allowed claims 2-6 and 13-19, rejected claims 8 and 11 and concluded claims 9 and 10 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.¹ Merely to expedite allowance of this case, Applicant opts to amend claim 8 to include the limitations from allowable claim 9. As a result of the amendment to claim 8, Applicant cancels claim 9 and adjusts the dependency link of claim 10 to depend from claim 8, not claim 9. None of these amendments introduce new issues. The amendments merely focus on the subject matter the Examiner has already indicated to be patentable.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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¹ The Summary page of the Office Action states that claims 9 and 10 are rejected, in addition to claims 8 and 11. The text of the Office Action, however, states that claims 9 and 10 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicant contacted the Examiner for clarification. The Examiner confirmed on the telephone that claims 9 and 10 are not rejected and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.